

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 are presented for consideration, with Claims 1, 6 and 11 being independent.

The independent claims have been amended to further distinguish Applicants' invention from the cited art.

Claims 1-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as allegedly being anticipated by Ohouchi et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 of Applicants' invention relates to a coordinate input device for generating a coordinate value corresponding to light coming from a pointing tool. The device includes optical means for imaging the light, and a plurality of sensing means, arranged for one coordinate axis, for sensing the light imaged by the optical means, wherein light receiving areas of the plurality of sensing means have an overlapping portion. Measurement means measures peak levels of data sensed by the plurality of sensing means arranged for the one coordinate axis, and comparison means compares the measured peak levels. In addition, selection means selects one of the plurality of sensing means arranged for the one coordinate axis on the basis of the comparison result, and output means outputs a coordinate value corresponding to the light on the basis of the selected sensing means.

Claims 6 and 11 relate to a method of controlling a coordinate input device and a computer readable memory which stores a program for controlling a coordinate input device, respectively, and correspond generally to Claim 1. These claims have thus been amended to provide for a plurality of sensors to be arranged for one coordinate axis and adapted to sense the light imaged by an optical means.

In accordance with Applicants' claimed invention, an economical and high performance coordinate input device can be provided.

The patent to Ohouchi et al. relates to a coordinate detection device that performs various operations to relieve the amount of processing required of a host computer in detecting coordinate data. The coordinate detecting section is constructed such that each light receiving element has a corresponding light emitting element arranged opposite thereto. The coordinate detection device can provide the functions of creating a single average value from a plurality of inputs, selecting between a precision of the frequency with which the light sensitive elements are arranged and a precision of half the frequency with which the light sensitive elements are arranged, independently restarting the scanning process when no value is detected, outputting only the last value of a string of consecutive input values, outputting a previously detected value only when a difference exists between a new value and the previous value, and outputting a value only when the value falls within a predetermined range.

In contrast to Applicants' claimed invention, however, Ohouchi et al. fails to teach or suggest, among other features, optical means for imaging the light, and a plurality of sensing means, arranged for one coordinate axis, for sensing the light imaged by said optical means, wherein light-receiving areas of said plurality of sensing means have an overlapping portion. As discussed above, Ohouchi et al. discloses plural sensors with corresponding plural light emitting sources, rather than a plurality of sensors for sensing the light imaged by the optical means. Although Ohouchi et al. comments that the coordinate detection device can be used with all sorts of sensor means (col. 25, lines 31-37), nothing in Ohouchi et al. teaches or suggests optical means for imaging the light, and a plurality of sensing means, arranged for one coordinate axis, for sensing the light imaged by said optical means. Furthermore, nothing in

Ohouchi et al. is read to teach or suggest that the light-receiving areas of the plurality of sensing means have an overlapping portion.

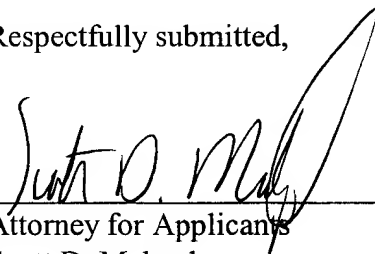
Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Ohouchi et al. fails to teach or suggest Applicants' claimed invention. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 1-11 under 35 U.S.C. §102 is respectfully requested.

It is submitted, therefore, that Applicants' invention as set forth in independent Claims 1, 6 and 11 is patentable over the cited art. In addition, dependent Claims 2-5 and 7-10 set forth additional features of the invention. Independent consideration of the dependent claims is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of this application is deemed to be in order and such action is respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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